

MURRAY'S
Japanese Photographers
All kinds of photographic work done in latest styles also Passport Photos.
Developing and Printing for Amateurs & Specialists.
No. 22, Queen's Road Central
Tel. 224

The China Mail

ESTABLISHED 1845

OVERLAND CHINA MAIL
PUBLISHED EVERY
MAIL DAY.
Contains the Week's News
of Hongkong and the
Far East.
Extra (including Postage) to any
part of the world: 615
per annum.

No. 17,054

號二十月正年八十百九千壹英

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1918.

巳丁亥歲年七國民華中

PRICE, \$3.00 Per Month

THORNE'S

OLD VAT
No. 4.
SCOTCH WHISKY.

SOLE AGENTS.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS.
HONGKONG.
Tel. 618.



NOTICE

ANY EUROPEAN NON ASIATIC or INDIAN desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the General Police Station between the hours of 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily.
Applicants will be required to produce Passports or Identification papers. All persons with certain exceptions, who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916. Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.
The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCHANTS
INSURANCE CO.
WHICH ARE THE SHARERS OF
THE OCEAN MARINE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LTD.
and
THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS
ASSURANCE CO.

TOTAL FUND at 31st December, 1914,
\$23,970,367.
Authorized Capital \$5,000,000
Subscribed Capital \$4,500,000
Paid-up Capital \$2,487,500
II—Fire Funds.....\$3,637,067
III—Life & Annuity Funds.....\$11,667,490
Sinking Fund Account.....128,230
\$23,970,367
Revenue Fire Branch.....\$2,381,466
Life and Annuity Branches.....2,141,588
Revenue Marine Department.....337,239
Other Receipts.....478,940
\$23,339,228

The Accumulative Funds of the various Branches are separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, are set aside to meet the claims under the respective Departments of the Company's Business.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
Agents.

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY,
LIMITED

TIME TABLE

WEEK DAY

7.30 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
8.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
3.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

WEEK END

8.30 a.m. and 9 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. every half hour.
11.00 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. every quarter of an hour

SUNDAY

7.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 12 Noon Every 15 minutes.
12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
8.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
8.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS

as on Week Days.

SATURDAY

Extra Car at 12 midnight.
SPECIALIZED by arrangement at the Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDING, 222 Queen's Road Central.

Season and punch tickets available for all cars not already full running at the above stated in the Company's time tables, but not for special cars, can be obtained at the Company's Office.
No Season tickets will be issued until payment therefor has been made in Bank or by Cheque or Company order accompanying Bank Note.

JOHN D. HENDERSON & SONS

BUSINESS NOTICES

W. S. BAILEY & CO., LTD.

ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS.

KOWLOON BAY.

Steam and Motor Vessels,
Steel Building Work of every Description,
Castings, Forgings, Repairs and Supplies.

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD. AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

Sailings—To Canton daily at 8 a.m. (Sundays excepted) and 10 p.m.
From Canton daily at 8 a.m. (Sundays excepted) and 4 p.m.

SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

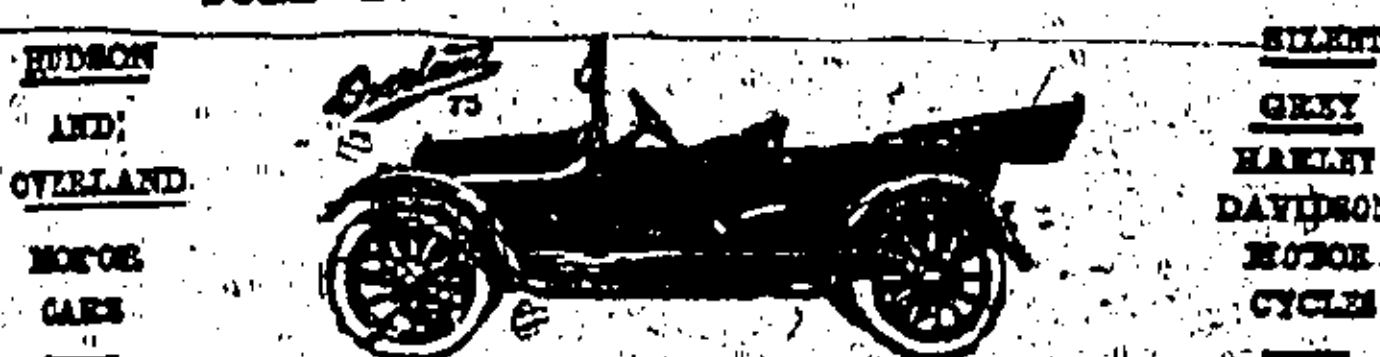
HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

Sailings—To Macao daily at 8 a.m. (Sundays 9 a.m.) and 2 p.m. (Sundays 1 p.m.)
From Macao daily at 7.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Sundays 3 p.m.)

Further information may be obtained at the COMPANY'S OFFICE, Hotel Mansions, or from Messrs. Thos. Cook & Son, Booking Agents, Hongkong.

DRAGON MOTOR CAR CO.

SOLE DISTRIBUTORS FOR THE FAMOUS



TELEPHONE 452.
COME AND INSPECT
BEST CARS IN THE COLONY FOR HIRE.

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING Co., Ltd.

Established 1883

MANUFACTURERS OF

PURE Manila ROPE

STRAND 1/2" to 1 1/2"
CIRCUMFERENCE
CABLE LAID 5" to 15"
CIRCUMFERENCE
4 STRAND 3" to 10"
CIRCUMFERENCE

Oil Drilling Cables of any size up to 8,000 feet in length

Prices, samples and full particulars will be forwarded on application to

Shewan, Tomes & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, April 11, 1912.

WATSON'S

COMPOUND

BALSAM OF ANISEED

Gives immediate relief in all cases of

COUGHS AND COLDS.

Prices: 50 cents and \$1.00 per Bottle.

PREPARED BY

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Telephone No. 18.

THE KWONG HIP LUNG CO., LTD.

(NOW RECONSTRUCTED)

ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS, BOILER-MAKERS, BRASS and IRON FOUNDRIES. All work done in this establishment is guaranteed. We have over thirty years' experience. We own two slipways and an accommodation wharf of 200 feet long.

Our Office: 55, Cantonment Road, Central, Hongkong. Telephone No. 424.
Shipping Office: 20, Kowloon, Hongkong. Telephone No. 6.
Kowloon Office: 11, Cantonment Road, Kowloon. Telephone No. 111.

BUSINESS NOTICES

TAIKOO DOCKYARD.
BUILDERS OF SHIPS & ENGINES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
—THE TAIKOO DOCKYARD & ENGINEERING COMPANY—
OF HONGKONG LTD.
AGENTS:—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE
—TELEPHONE 212—
—TAIKOO DOCKYARD—

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LD.

PORTLAND CEMENT

In Casks of 375 lbs. net.

In Bags of 250 lbs. net.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.

GENERAL MANAGERS

THE HONGKONG HOTEL

AND

GRILL ROOM

J. H. TAGGART

MANAGER

PEAK HOTEL.

ADAMANTLY SITUATED AT VICTORIA GAP

Adjoining the Tramway Terminus, 1,400 feet above Sea Level.

A FIRST-CLASS FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND TOURISTS HOTEL.

Telephone in all rooms. First-class Cuisine, Lounge Smoking and Ladies rooms, Roof Garden.
Rates: From \$5 per day. Max. Telegraph add: "Peacocks".
P. O. FRUSTEL, Manager.

TO THOSE GOING AWAY

Keep in touch with local happenings by subscribing to

"THE OVERLAND CHINA MAIL"

All the News of Hongkong and the Far East.

ORDER BEFORE YOU LEAVE, SO THAT YOU MAY RECEIVE IT WHILE AWAY.

From all the leading news agencies

CAN BE MAILED TO ANY ADDRESS FROM THE

CHINA MAIL OFFICE

THE WAR.

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

THE RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

SPEECHES BY DR. KUEHLMANN AND COUNT CZERNIN.

DOUBTS AS TO RUSSIA'S SINCERE INTENTION.

AMSTERDAM, Jan. 11.
At the plenary sitting at Brest-Litovsk, on January 10, Dr. Kuehlmann, the German Foreign Secretary, reviewed the whole course of the negotiations.

He said that since the interruption in the discussions much had happened calculated to create doubt as to the sincere intention of Russia to arrive at the conclusion of a speedy peace with the Quadruplex.

Count Czernin (head of the Austrian delegates) said it was no longer a question of negotiation for a general peace but for a separate peace with Russia. The transfer of the negotiations to neutral territory would give the Entente the desired opportunity to interfere. Continuing, Count Czernin said if the Russians were animated with the same intentions as were the representatives of the Quadruplex, a result would be attained satisfactory to all. If not, things would take the necessary course but the responsibility for war then would fall exclusively on the Russian Delegation.

Talaat Bay and M. Popoff agreed. General Hoffman stated: "I have before me a number of wireless messages of appeal, signed by the representatives of the Russian Government and the Army Command, partly containing abuse of the German Army institutions and the German Army Command, and partly of a revolutionary character, to our troops. These messages have undoubtedly transgressed the spirit of the armistice concluded by both Armies. In the name of the Chief Army Command, I protest most strongly against the form and contents of these messages and appeals."

The other representatives of the Central Powers supported the protest, and on M. Trotsky's proposal, the sitting was interrupted.

A "LAPSED" DECLARATION.
PETROGRAD, Jan. 11.
Dr. Kuehlmann, during the course of his speech at Brest-Litovsk, said that in view of the fact that the Allied Governments had not replied regarding the peace conversations, the declaration of the Quadruplex Alliance on December 27, that they are willing immediately to sign peace on the principles of "no annexations" and "no indemnities" regarding Germany and her Allies, if guarantees are forthcoming that all Russia's Allies will adopt the same principles, lapses.

THE PRESENT POSITION.
LONDON, Jan. 12.
The position as regards the Brest-Litovsk negotiations now is that the Allies, not having responded to the Central Powers' proposal for a general peace, the latter now propose that negotiations should be resumed for a separate peace.

The meeting has been adjourned for a day in order to allow the Russian and Ukrainian Delegates to prepare a reply.

It is reported as a significant fact that Dr. Kuehlmann and Count Czernin have both expressed a readiness to accept the principle of a separate peace.

EXPECTED FAILURE OF NEGOTIATIONS.

AN UPRISING OF THE PEOPLE PREDICTED.

LONDON, Jan. 11.
The "Times" Petrograd Correspondent states that M. Trotsky and his colleagues, on returning from Brest-Litovsk, were joined by a delegation from the Ukrainian Rada which has finally come, to terms with the Bolsheviks.

M. Trotsky, on the resumption of the negotiations, reaffirmed that Russian Democracy would fight to the bitter end rather than be enslaved by imperialists. It would not be war in the trenches but an uprising of the people with barricades. He insisted on the transfer of the negotiations to Stockholm.

M. Lenin, addressing a secret conference in Petrograd, on the subject of demobilisation, expressed the fear of a failure of the peace negotiations; therefore, it was necessary to delay disbanding the army and to consider measures for the defence of Petrograd.

THE WESTERN FRONT.
LONDON, Jan. 11.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—
There was hostile artillery activity to the east of Vimy Ridge.

A GERMAN REPORT.
LONDON, Jan. 11.
A German official message states that an enemy surprise attack, to the south-east of Ypres, broke down. The English artillery activity between Moerwaert and Maroing was very violent at dawn.

THE FRENCH FRONT.
LONDON, Jan. 11.
A French communiqué states:—
Two enemy aeroplanes were brought down.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.
ENEMY FORCED TO EVACUATE TRENCHES.
LONDON, Jan. 11.
An Italian official message states:—
To the westward of Cavasone, on trench mortars forced the enemy to evacuate some trenches.

We machine-gunned the retreating enemy, who suffered heavy losses. We brought down three enemy aeroplanes.

LONDON, Jan. 11.
A British official message from the Italian Front says:—
Our aeroplanes attacked seven hostile machines causing two to crash down and driving down two. None of our machines were lost.

It is freezing hard.

EAST AFRICA.
PURSUING GERMAN RAIDERS IN PORTUGUESE TERRITORY.
LONDON, Jan. 11.
An official dispatch from East Africa states that a small and exhausted German force, which is short of food and ammunition, has moved up the Lupatunga Valley in Portuguese territory capturing small posts and subsequently dispersing into rubber parties. Between Lake Nyasa and Port Amelia.

British mounted troops have been ordered to pursue the raiders into the Lupatunga Valley.

INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD.

OWING to alterations and repairs at the Power Station the supply of Electricity will be SHUT OFF on SUNDAY, the 13th inst. from 7.30 A.M. to 1 p.m.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,

Hongkong, Jan. 11, 1918. 30

NOTICE

HAVING adopted a sub-exchange system in this Office our telephone numbers are ENTIRELY CHANGED, the new numbers being 2570, 2571 and 2572.

MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA, LTD.

Hongkong, Jan. 10, 1918. 33

THE WEST POINT BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the THIRTIETH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & COMPANY, Limited, on TUESDAY, 29th January, 1918, at 11.30 A.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1917.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY 19th to TUESDAY, 29th January, 1918 (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

A. SHELTON HOOPER,

Secretary to the

HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.

General Agents for the

WEST POINT BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hongkong, Jan. 11, 1918. 33

THE HONGKONG CENTRAL ESTATE LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the FOURTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & COMPANY, Limited, on TUESDAY, 29th January, 1918, at 11.45 A.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1917.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY 19th to TUESDAY, 29th January, 1918 (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

THE HONGKONG CENTRAL ESTATE LIMITED.

A. SHELTON HOOPER,

Secretary to the

General Managers.

Hongkong, Jan. 11, 1918. 34

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the THIRTIETH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & COMPANY, Limited, on TUESDAY, 29th January, 1918, at 11.30 A.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1917.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY 19th to TUESDAY, 29th January, 1918 (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

A. SHELTON HOOPER,

Secretary to the

General Managers.

Hongkong, Jan. 11, 1918. 33

THE HONGKONG LAND RECLAMATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SEVENTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & COMPANY, Limited, on TUESDAY, 29th January, 1918, at 11.30 A.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1917.

The REGISTER OF SHARES of the Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY 19th to TUESDAY, 29th January, 1918 (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

MOWBRAY S. NORTHOOTE,

Secretary.

Hongkong, Jan. 11, 1918. 36

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

THE COMMITTEE has decided that the following shall be the Settlement Days for the year 1918:

MONDAY, 29th January
TUESDAY, 30th January
WEDNESDAY, 31st January
THURSDAY, 1st February
FRIDAY, 2nd February
SATURDAY, 3rd February
SUNDAY, 4th February
MONDAY, 5th February
TUESDAY, 6th February
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WATSON'S THE PREMIER SCOTCH.

DISTINCTIVE IN
FLAVOUR, WELL MATURED,
MELLOW.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
TELEPHONE No. 616.

THE CALENDAR.

GENERAL MEMORANDA.

Tuesday, Jan. 14—

2.30 p.m.—Arrival of Takwood and Blackwood Furniture, &c., at Messrs. Hughes & Hough's.

Wednesday, Jan. 15—

9 p.m.—Court Cards at the Theatre.

Tuesday, Jan. 22—

Company Meetings:—

11.30 a.m.—West Point Building Co.

11.45—Hongkong Central Estate, Ltd.

12 noon—Hongkong Land Investment Co.

12.15 p.m.—Hongkong Land Reclamation Co.

Monday, Feb. 11—

Chinese New Year.

THE CHINA MAIL.

NOTICE.

Contributions relating to news should be addressed to THE MANAGER.

Contributors must forward their names and addresses with any communication, addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication but as evidence of good faith.

All material for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Letters relating to business should be addressed to THE MANAGER.

Rate of subscription to "The China Mail" is \$26 per annum in advance, per quarter and per month as follows:

The "China Mail" is delivered free to subscribers in Hongkong and Kowloon.

Postage is charged at the rate of fifty cents per month.

Orders for extra copies of the "China Mail" should be sent as soon as possible as the supply is limited. Cash 10 cts., Credit 20 cts., per copy.

Rate of subscription to the "Overland China Mail" is \$12 per annum; postage \$1 per annum extra. Single copies twenty cents.

Advertisements and additions to Advertisements on Pages 2, 3, 4, and 7 should be sent to the Office, No. 5, Wyndham Street, not later than 11.30 a.m.

Advertisements and additions to Advertisements on Pages 1, 4, 5, and 8 should be sent not later than 1 p.m.

New Advertisements should be sent in before 3 p.m.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered to a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

Telephone Address: "Mint," Hongkong, Code A.B.C. 5th Edition.

Telephone No. 22.

THE CHINA MAIL LIMITED.

"OVERLAND CHINA MAIL"

THE WEEKLY EDITION OF THE "CHINA MAIL."

CONTAINS ALL THE NEWS OF THE WEEK.

PRICE 25 cts. (cash) per Copy.

THE FIRST CHINESE NEWSPAPER EVER ISSUED UNDER PURELY NATIVE DIRECTION.

The Chinese Mail

THE LEADING CHINESE POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

CONTAINS THE MOST RELIABLE TELEGRAPHIC NEWS FROM NORTH CHINA.

ALL THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM THE YANKEE PORTS OF CHINA AND JAPAN.

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DELIVERED TO ALL POST OFFICES.

WATSON & CO., LTD., HONGKONG.

tion." It is sincerely to be hoped that the epidemic in Shansi will be stamped out as speedily and as completely as was the epidemic in Manchuria in 1910-1911. These an international medical force gathered on the spot and the accumulated results of the research work then done provide a reserve of experience upon which those who are called upon to cope with new outbreaks are able to draw, so that no time is lost in applying what has been demonstrated to be the most effective means of preventing the spread of this terrible scourge.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The January Criminal Sessions will open on Monday January 21.

The Chinese Government has granted \$130,000 for the construction of a modern road between Peking and Tientsin. The American Red Cross Society, it is reported, will also contribute \$100,000 for that purpose.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—
Cotton Yard Dealers Guild, \$100.
Passage Macey Fund, 507.

Americans in China have been ordered to stay on the firing line of commerce and not rush to enlist or offer their services as soldiers unless they are called, according to a memorandum received from Washington by Mr. W. A. Burns, President of the American Chamber of Commerce in China.

The rainfall in Hongkong for the month of December, 1917, as registered at the Royal Observatory was 1.140 inches. Rain fell on three days. At the Botanical Gardens it was 1.24 inches on 3 days, at the Maclellan Hospital, Mount Kellett, 1.12 inches on 3 days, and at the Police Station, Tai Po, 2.16 inches on 3 days.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to re-appoint the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, C.M.G., to be Chairman of the Licensing Board for a further term of three years, with effect from the 1st February, 1918, and to appoint the Hon. Mr. E. D. C. Wells to act as a Member of the Board during the absence on leave of Mr. R. J. O'Hutchinson or until further notice, with effect from the 9th January, 1918.

George Sinnerker, a German subject, residing at Shanghai, who was imprisoned for several days some time back until he agreed to register in accordance with the Municipal Notification, was again brought up at the Shanghai Mixed Court, January 7, for failing to report himself at the Hongkong Police Station as required under the conditions of the permit. Sinnerker's defence was that his physical condition was such that he was physically unfit to go out doors. The Court imposed a fine of \$100 or in the alternative a month's imprisonment.

The following is the programme of the last of the present series of Mr. Denman Fuller's Informal Recitals and will take place at the Helens-May Institute on Monday next at 5.30 p.m. These Recitals are open to all and at each a collection is made which goes intact to the Prisoners of War Fund. Programme:—The North Wind by H. Farjeon; Intermezzo, Brahms; Danse Nègre, Cyril Scott; De Profundis, Balfour Gardiner; Reflets dans l'eau, C. Debussy; Prelude for the left hand only, Scriabine; Humoresque, Tchaikovsky; A courtier, Borodine; Poupee Valse, Poldini; Moonshine, Macdonald; Serenade; Sinding; Ballade.

The libel action in connection with the winning of the sweep on the champions' race, at the last race meeting at Shanghai still continues to occupy the Mixed Court of Shanghai. The defendant, a Chinese interpreter, in the witness box last week, repudiated the libel. He said he had never said he was entitled to a half of \$79,000 whereas he had only received a quarter of the prize. One of the Inspectors told him that but which one he could not say. He had never suggested that Mr. Rodger had done anything which meant that he had never wished anyone to understand such a thing. Witnesses had never suggested there was anything improper in Mr. Rodger's conduct, and had never intended to suggest any such thing; nor did he wish to do so now. The case was adjourned until January 14.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

The death, from smallpox, is reported of Mr. A. C. Perkins, who recently went to Tokyo from Shanghai and Singapore, falling ill shortly after his arrival there.

The death of Mr. C. S. Garton, a young American in the employ of H. K. Arnold, Bros. & Co., occurred at Shanghai from smallpox at the Shanghai Isolation Hospital last week. The remains were cremated.

Professor Gerard Zelman, a baritone, who gave some very successful concerts at Shanghai last Summer, is now in Hongkong on his way back to Shanghai, and hopes to arrange for a concert during his brief stay in the Colony.

Mr. A. W. Playfair, professor of English literature in Keio University, died at Kowloon in the Halsemerien from a sudden attack of heart disease. Mr. Playfair, who was 47 years old, had gone to Hongkong for a short vacation during the New Year holidays.

The Kailan Mining Administration has received the following telegram:—"Regret advise Lance-Corps James Knox killed in action September 23." Mr. Knox was a member of the Chinese staff of the Kailan Mining Administration and was the son of Mr. Knox, late chief engineer of the R.M.S.S. Kailan.

Mr. Ivan Chen has been appointed Commissioner of Foreign Affairs at Shanghai. Mr. Chen, a native of Hunan, is a graduate of Lincoln's Inn, England. During the Manchu régime, he served as secretary of the Chinese Legation in London for more than ten years. In May, 1911, he was Commercial Commissioner to Shanghai. He is 48 years old and very popular in Shanghai.

QUEEN MARY'S NEEDLEWORK GUILD.

AN URGENT REQUEST.

An urgent request has been received for a large number of knitted mufflers for troops, to be finished as quickly as possible. Wool and needles can be obtained from the Heads of the Working Parties, and will also be given out at the City Hall to all who apply on Monday, 15th inst., at 10.30 a.m. Workers are asked to leave their other work and for the next few days to concentrate on getting this through. Donations for buying mufflers will also be gratefully received by the Heads of the Working Parties, and by Mrs. Stubb at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

HONGKONG AND CHINA DISTRICT.

T.M.C. DIVISION.

Tuesday, January 15th—

8 p.m.—Squad and Stretcher Drill.

Thursday, January 17th—

8 p.m.—Squad and Stretcher Drill.

QUEEN'S CAVALRY DIVISION.

Thursday, January 17th—

4.30 p.m.—Bandaging Practice.

Friday, January 18th—

4.30 p.m.—Squad and Stretcher Drill.

"B" SECTION.

Monday, January 14th—

4.30 p.m.—Bandaging Practice.

Tuesday, January 15th—

4.30 p.m.—Squad Drill.

Thursday, January 17th—

4.30 p.m.—First Aid class.

Friday, January 18th—

4.30 p.m.—Squad Drill.

(84) E. HALLS,

District Supl. in Charge of District.

A Commission is now sitting at

Shanghai for the revision of the Customs Tariff of China. China's object is to obtain an effective 5 per cent. ad valorem. It is estimated that only 84 has been obtained during the past 10 years. What the change will mean to China may be gathered by seeing how it would have affected the Customs revenue of 1917. This amounted to \$1,177,000. An effective 5 per cent. would have yielded a total of \$1,548,821.

The "Daily Mail" was recently making persistent attacks upon Admiral Jellicoe, and it has been advocating his removal from the Admiralty on the ground that he was responsible for the inconspicuous result of the battle of Jutland. It is stated that Admiral Jellicoe in 1915 was court-martialed for a similar lapse. It makes Admiral Jellicoe responsible for the failure to aid Russia in the Baltic, and for the present loss of the navy in the North Sea.

THE MAGISTRACY.

ARMED ROBBERY.

Three Chinese were charged on remand before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning with committing an armed robbery on board a junk anchored off Kowloon Island on New Year's night.

Defendants pleaded not guilty. Mr. R. Mattingly appeared to defend one of the accused.

Mr. Wood remanded the case until next Wednesday.

A WOULD-BE SUICIDE.

A Chinese youth was charged on remand before Mr. Wood this morning with attempted suicide.

His Worship, addressing the defendant, said that the Tung Wah authorities would send him back to his country, and that he was required to sign a personal bond of \$50 to attend the Court for sentence when called upon to do so within the ensuing six months.

THE LEGAL FARE.

A Chinese charged a rickshaw coolie before Mr. Wood, this morning, with demanding more than the legal fare and also with assault.

Defendant pleaded not guilty.

Complainant deposed that he engaged defendant's rickshaw at the Kowloon Ferry Wharf to take him to Arsenal Street. When the destination was reached, witness paid defendant 8 cents. Defendant refused and demanded 15 cents. They argued and defendant struck witness a blow on the mouth. Witness had the defendant arrested.

Inspector Sim said the legal fare for the journey was five cents. Complainant was bleeding from the mouth when he went to the station.

Defendant denied the assault. He stated that he only demanded ten cents, this being the fare usually paid for the journey.

Mr. J. R. Wood imposed on defendant a fine of 18 or five weeks' hard labour in default.

ALLEGED THEFT OF WOOD.

A Chinese boatman employed on a junk was charged with the larceny of a quantity of wood, before Mr. Dyer Ball this morning.

Sergt. Tulloch stated that the defendant was engaged by a contractor to transport wooden scaffolding from Hongkong to Yuenai. This was done, and when the scaffolding was discharged, it was found that a large pole was missing. A search was made of the junk and the pole was found to be cut up in pieces. The police were informed and the defendant was arrested.

Defendant pleaded not guilty and stated that he had permission to take the wood.

Complainant denied having ever given the permission.

Mr. Dyer Ball remanded the case, fixing bail at \$50.

THEFT OF GLASS.

A Chinese was charged with the larceny of 30 pieces of glass from an empty house in Yuenai.

Defendant pleaded guilty.

Sergt. Tulloch stated that a linkong arrested the defendant from information he received from a little girl who told him that she saw defendant cutting the glass in an empty house. Defendant was taken to the Police Station and being searched, was found to possess an implement for cutting glass. Questioned as to where the glass was, defendant took the police to a house in Temple Street and a bag containing the glass was found hidden underneath the staircase.

Mr. Dyer Ball sentenced the defendant to three months' hard labour and four hours' stocks.

CHINESE CUSTOMS REVENUE.

1917 A RECORD YEAR.

The Customs revenue for the year 1917 was \$1,400,000 in excess of that for 1916. The principal differences are: Harbin, an increase of \$1,200,000; Antung, \$1,300,000; Tientsin, \$1,000,000; Shanghai, \$1,100,000; Kowloon, \$1,000,000; Canton, \$1,000,000; Hankow, \$1,000,000; Swatow, \$1,000,000. Collections at Antung and Tientsin are a record for the Customs under the Inspector General, at \$1,375,000 each. The average exchange for 1917, at 4.31, represents a revenue of \$2,241,000 as against \$2,264,000 for 1916, when the average exchange was 4.318.

CURE THAT COUGH.

WHEN you have a troublesome cough, it does not mean that you have consumption or that you are going to have it. But it does mean that you have a cold, and if it is not cured, it will be at the end of the road and take you to the hospital. The cure is simple. It is to be found in the "China Mail" under the heading "Cough Remedy." It is a simple remedy, and it is the best remedy for a cough. It is the best remedy for a cough. It is the best remedy for a cough.

PRESENTATION AT THE Y.M.C.

NEW BILLIARD TABLE OPENED.

At the Victoria Recreation Club yesterday evening the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, C.M.G., formally opened the Billiard Table presented to the Club by the Hon. Mr. Ho Fook.

In announcing the presentation Mr. Claud Severn said:—Gentlemen,—This evening I have much pleasure in formally opening, in this club, the billiard table which Mr. Ho Fook has very kindly presented. He has not only presented the table but during the last few days he has seen that the cloth and cushions are in fair order by getting new ones. We are all very grateful to him for his benevolence to the Club in the winter evenings when darkness comes early, and will also provide a source of financial gain combined with innocent pleasure. On the end of the table is a silver plate recording that the table is presented by the Hon. Mr. Ho Fook to the Victoria Recreation Club, October 1917. Mr. Ho Fook is one of our oldest members, and I am sure we are all very grateful to him. (Applause.)

The Hon. Mr. Claud Severn then announced that Gunner Lord and Sergeant Pitt would play a match of 500 up, and in doing so he said:—We have here Sergeant Pitt whose prowess you all know, and a newcomer to the Gunner Lord, and I hope they will give you a good game. In order to show what the pace of the table is like, Mr. John Rodger, an old exponent of the game, has kindly consented to play a few strokes with me. At the end of a quarter of an hour whoever has the highest score is the winner.

In this little game the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn disclosed that fact that it was not by any means the first time he had handled a billiard cue. He plays a very slow game and his winning hazards are executed with deadly accuracy. He has also acquired the ability of playing for position, which is so essential to good billiards. After one or two visits to the table, Mr. Severn compiled a neat break of 24, which score he finally took to 48. Mr. Rodger did not get going until the end, when he put on a break of 43, winning the game by 31 points.

In the match between Sergeant Pitt and Gunner Lord, both men displayed a knowledge of the game considerably above the average amateur. Lord, perhaps, played a more scientific game, but seemed to go out of his way to execute shots in the most difficult manner. In the early part of the match he went well ahead and it appeared that he would eventually secure the victory, but his play was not consistent and he failed on many occasions to take advantage of the openings afforded him. His best breaks were 27, 26, 41, 31, 39, and 47.

Sergeant Pitt played a good all round game and did not fail in the later stages, to take advantage of his openings. He got out of difficulties several times, by nearly executed "long jumps" and runs through. Had he played up to the form he displayed in the last 150 he would have won by a considerable margin but early in the game he paid many visits to the table without making double figures breaks, and sometimes not scoring at all. His game unlike his opponent's, was rather fast but he was very accurate and thus his losing hazards "came off." The accuracy of the shots obviating wobbling over the pocket which often happens with fast players. The game was a ding-dong one until the 400 mark was reached, then Lord went ahead, but in the last two laps Pitt picked up with some excellent double-figure breaks and when the game stood at Lord 567—Pitt 691, Lord failed, and left the red over the pocket, and Pitt then ran out. Pitt's best breaks were 35, 24, 32, 21 and 23.

At the conclusion, The Hon. Mr. Claud Severn presented the winner with a cup, given by the Club, and the loser with a billiard case and cue, presented by Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Company.

TENNIS.

THE BRADLEY CUP.

The second of the semi-finals for the Bradley Cup was played at the Dockyard Recreation Club's Court, in the Naval yard, yesterday afternoon, when Sergt. Major Jeremy R.E. met Sergt. Major Anderson R.E. The match was fairly evenly contested and right to the finish might have gone either way. Jeremy, however, managed to finally secure the victory by 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2. In the second set, Anderson was forced to retire for a short time, owing to a hard smashed ball by Jeremy, striking him on the head. The match was a hard fought one, and the spectators were much interested. The match was a hard fought one, and the spectators were much interested. The match was a hard fought one, and the spectators were much interested.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

[By "Scribbler."]

Old residents I think will generally support the assertion that it is difficult to recall a winter in Hongkong in which we have had such a prolonged spell of cold weather as we have had during the past three weeks. Colds have been almost epidemic, yet how many people have seen the mercury below 40°? On the Peak the glass has been down to about 40 degrees on several mornings recently between 7 and 9 a.m., but during the night it has been much below that mark. A self-registering thermometer on the Peak on Wednesday showed that it had reached down to 31 degrees—which accounted for the ice to be seen early on Wednesday morning.

Sir James Stewart Lockhart at the University Congregation the other day regarded himself as a sort of Rip Van Winkle in the Colony, so great have been the changes since he left it in 1902. Not the least striking of the many changes is the growing use of the motor car. I believe, Dr. Noble was the first to introduce the new method of locomotion to Hongkong—a place which seemed so very unsuited for it. Now, I suppose, there must be well over a hundred cars in the Colony, and Sir James Lockhart as he emerged from the University after the Degree ceremony, and saw the army of motor-cars in waiting might have almost imagined himself to be in the neighbourhood of Piccadilly Circus. Who knows but what in another fifteen years we may not have our aeroplanes from which we shall be able to hire our aeroplanes for trips to the Peak or Kowloon?

Something like record collections seem to have been taken last Sunday both at St. John's Cathedral and Union Church in aid of charitable objects related to the war. Appropos of appeals from the pulpit, the following Mark Twain story is related in the New York Bookman:

At a spiritualist demonstration held recently, Mark Twain appeared and dictated a short story to a lady. After the dictation of the story was completed the typist remarked, "It's pretty short for a book." There came this reply:—Did you ever know about my prize, joke? One day I went to church, heard a missionary sermon, was carried away to the extent of a hundred dollars. The preacher talked, I reduced my note to fifty dollars. He talked on. I came down to twenty-five, to ten, to five, and after he had said all that he had in him, I stole a nickel from the basket. Reason for yourselves.

I judge that some local churchgoers will be glad to see the story in print. Why, deponent sayeth not—the reader being left to reason it out for himself.

They do some things in China better than they do in Hongkong—at any rate I bet some members of the Hongkong Police Reserve will think so when they read the following lines for which I am indebted to a Peking contemporary:—"The President has granted \$20,000 to reward the members of the police and the gendarmes who have discharged their duties satisfactorily during the past year." No mention is made regarding what those who get who have not not discharged their duties satisfactorily.

There was a sarcastic little reference in a "China Mail" leader the other day about affairs at Canton in which it was suggested as one of the possibilities in the development of the extravaganzas that the Military Governor would entertain at a banquet the men who had done their best to kill him by bombarding his yamen in the dead of night. There is an old saw which says that many a true word is spoken in jest, and I am reminded of this by seeing an announcement that "It is understood that H.E. Mok Wing-sun, the Acting Military Governor, has decided to entertain Admiral Cheng Pih-yong, the commander of the various cruisers, the various promissory persons (and the members of the Extraordinary Parliament) to dinner at the Yuchun Yamen, for the purpose of discussing the project of the South-West in upholding the Constitution." One would have expected to see the "Generalissimo" mentioned by name and not as a "promissory person." I am reminded of this by seeing an announcement that "It is understood that H.E. Mok Wing-sun, the Acting Military Governor, has decided to entertain Admiral Cheng Pih-yong, the commander of the various cruisers, the various promissory persons (and the members of the Extraordinary Parliament) to dinner at the Yuchun Yamen, for the purpose of discussing the project of the South-West in upholding the Constitution." One would have expected to see the "Generalissimo" mentioned by name and not as a "promissory person."

